



**ACTION
COMICS**

THE LINE OF
DC
SUPER-STAR

EXTRA!
"THIS IS A JOB FOR
KRYPTO
SUPERDOG!"



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Featuring:
**"SUPER-WAR
OF
INDEPENDENCE!"**

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BY THE
COMICS
CODE
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SUPERMAN'S **ACTION** COMICS



Hostess is back
with new **Baseball Cards**...
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3 Free Baseball Cards on specially marked boxes of Hostess® Snack Cakes.

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Twinkies®, Cup Cakes, Suzy Q's®,
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SUPERMAN

Created by
JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER

YOU HAVE A BILLION
CHANCES, SUPERMAN...
BUT I HAVE ONLY ONE!

EARTH IS THE ONLY
PLANET IN THE ENTIRE
UNIVERSE ON WHICH
I CAN STAY ALIVE--

--BUT YOU CAN LIVE
ON ANY ONE OF
BILLIONS!

WILL YOU LEAVE
EARTH AND LET
ME LIVE--

--OR STAY
HERE AND
DOOM ME?

IF YOU WERE SUPERMAN, HOW WOULD YOU RESOLVE THIS
AGONIZING LIFE-OR-DEATH DILEMMA?

MAKE YOUR DECISION--AND THEN COMPARE IT WITH
SUPERMAN'S AS HE BEGINS TO FIGHT A--

SUPER-WAR OF INDEPENDENCE!

STORY: CARY BATES

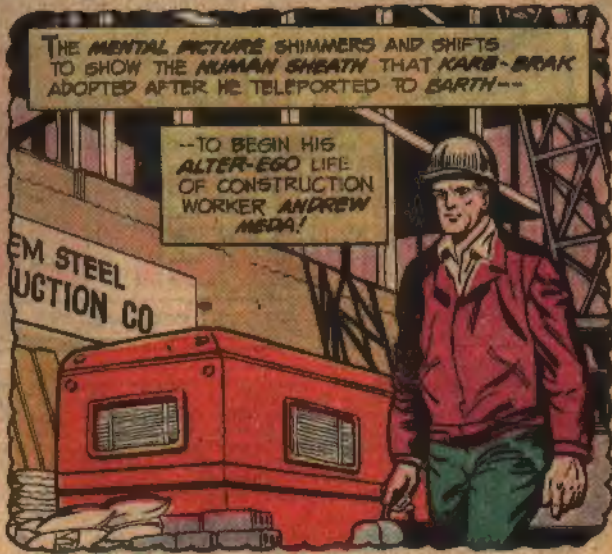
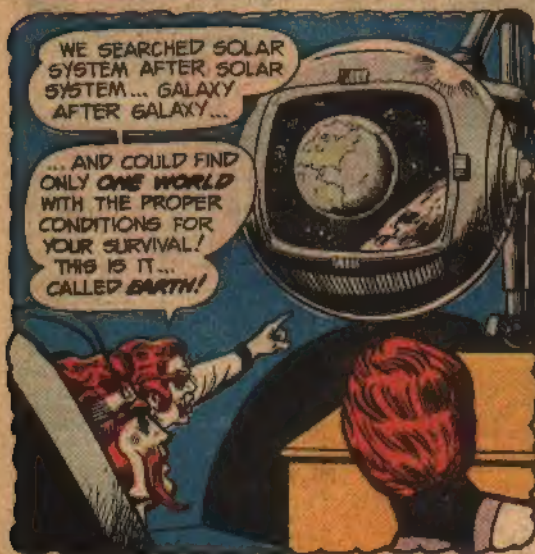
ART: CURT SWAN AND TEX BLAISDELL

EDITING: JULIUS SCHWARTZ

ACTION COMICS, Vol. 38, No. 482, August, 1978. Published monthly by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019. Carmine Infantino, Publisher, Julius Schwartz, Editor, E. Nelson Bridwell, Associate Editor, Bob Rozakis, Assistant Editor, Sol Harrison, Vice President—Director of Operations, Bernard Kashdan, Vice President—Business Manager, Jack Adler, Production Manager. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y. and additional mailing offices. Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwartz & Co., Inc., 985 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10017, (212) 301-1400. Copyright © 1978 by National Periodical Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

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LASTLY, SUPERMAN ENVISIONS THE IRREVERSIBLE, DEVASTATING EFFECT OF HIS SUPER-POWERS ON THE TRANSPLANTED ALIEN--

--CAUSING HIM TO LOSE HIS HUMAN GUISE AND SHOW THE SYMPTOMS OF A RAGING FEVER!

THE MENTAL MESSAGE GOT THROUGH, SUPERMAN?

YOU UNDERSTAND I HAVE BEEN FIGHTING YOU NOT OUT OF MALICE... BUT FOR MY OWN SURVIVAL?

KARB-BRAK-- YOU ARE NO LONGER GLOWING!

HAS YOUR FEVER PASSED?

NO--AND EVEN WORSE, THIS MEANS MY AFFLICTION IS REACHING ITS FINAL STAGE!

SUPERMAN... I MUST WARN YOU... FROM THIS TIME ON, I AM NO LONGER RESPONSIBLE FOR MY ACTIONS!

STAY AWAY FROM ME, SUPERMAN!

THE FINAL STAGE MUST RESULT EITHER IN MY DEATH--OR YOURS!

WAIT!... TELL ME WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN... WHAT TO EXPECT!

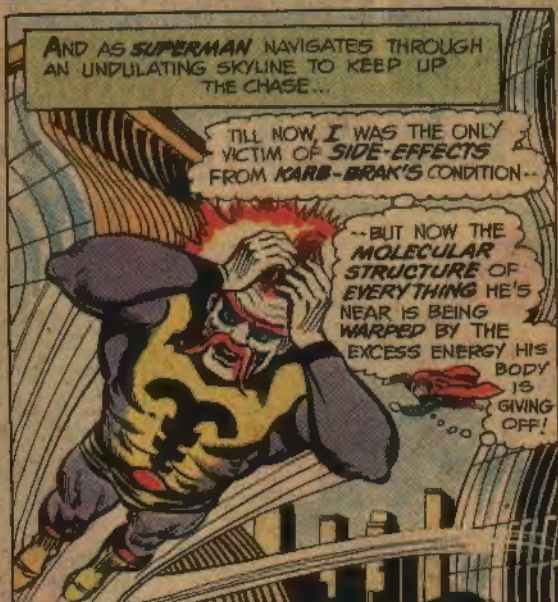
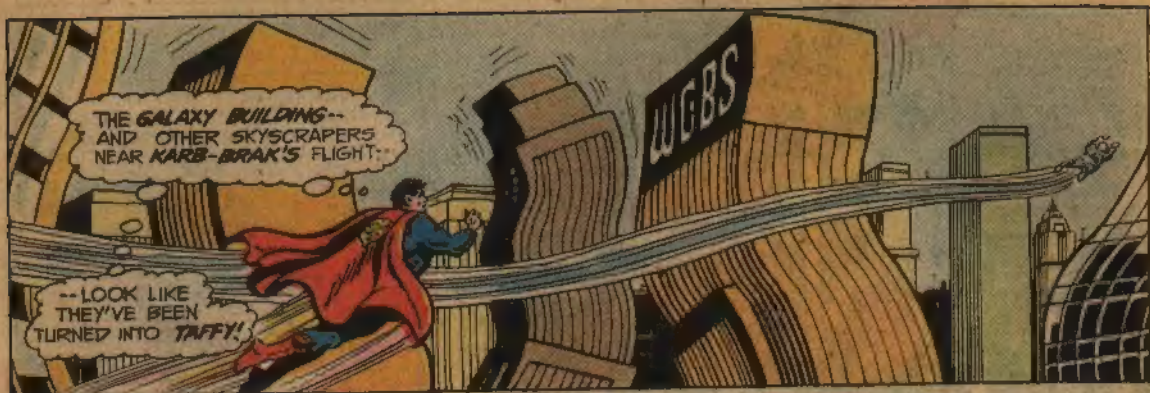
UNDAUNTED THE ACTION ACE SPEEDS IN PURSUIT OF HIS AILING QUARRY FROM THE STARS...

WHEN KARB-BRAK WAS SUFFERING FROM HIS FEVER ATTACKS... I WAS STRICKEN WITH THE SAME SYMPTOMS!

NOW BOTH OF US SEEM TO BE OVER THAT--

--BUT I'VE GOT THE FEELING, I MAY PREFER IT TO THE NEXT PHASE OF KARB-BRAK'S CONDITION--

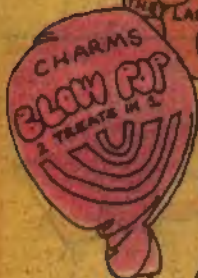
--GREAT GALAXIES! MY EYES MUST BE PLAYING TRICKS--!



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and others

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B

The Mighty Meat Snack conquers The Horrible Hungries.

You've tangled with the Hungries before. They sneak up behind you at the library, and make your stomach growl until your face turns red. They strike when you're halfway home from school, at least ten minutes from the nearest sandwich.

If you want to be ready, next time the Hungries come around, try taking along your pocket-size secret weapon.

Slim Jim.[®] The mighty meat snack you can carry anywhere, and eat anytime. In six Hungries-conquering flavors - mild, spicy, pizza, bacon, salami, and pepperoni.

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If you don't, and the Hungries get you, don't say we didn't warn you.

A little less than a meal.
A little more than a snack.



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HEY KIDS! BOB KANE, creator of Batman, has written a new song called "Have Faith in Me" recorded by HANK LEIDS and the "Bat-Group" COURAGE.

45 RPM—
2 Songs:
"Have Faith in Me"
Backed with
"You've Got
Me Crying"



SMASH HIT... YOUR'S
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of Bob Kane in the Batmobile!

WOW



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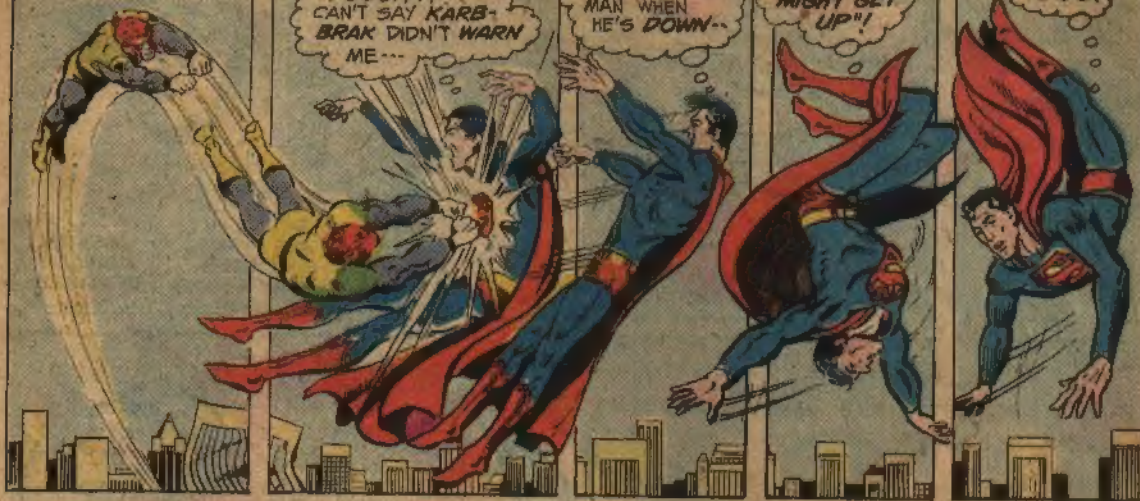
ABRUPTLY, WITHOUT ANY WARNING... **TURNABOUT!**...

OOOFFF!!
CAN'T SAY KARB-
BRAK DIDN'T WARN
ME...

-- BUT HE'LL
HAVE TO LEARN
NOT TO HIT A
MAN WHEN
HE'S DOWN--

-- BECAUSE,
AS THE GAG
GOES, "HE
MIGHT GET
UP!"

WHICH IS
EXACTLY WHAT
I'M GOING
TO DO!



YET, WHEN THE **METROPOLIS**
MARVEL LUNGES UPWARDS
IN A COUNTER-ATTACK...

HUNH?!!
MY PUNCH
DIDN'T CONNECT
... DIDN'T EVEN
COME CLOSE!

MISSED
WITH MY KICK,
TOO! ONLY ONE
EXPLANATION...

-- MY EYESIGHT'S
BEEN DISTORTED
ALONG WITH THE
REST OF ME!

WHAT I AIM
AT IS NEITHER
HERE NOR
THERE!

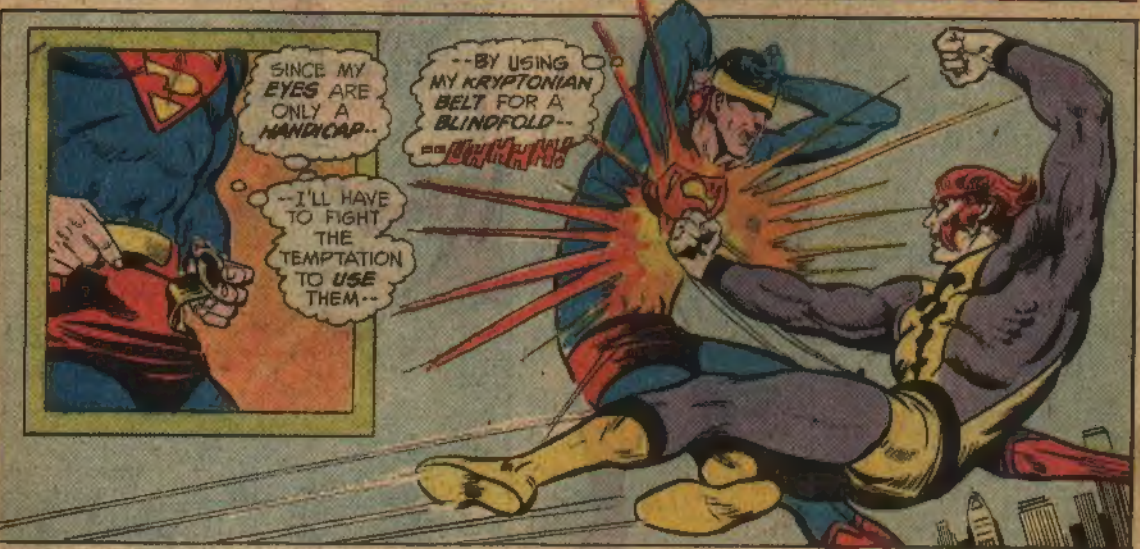


SINCE MY
EYES ARE
ONLY A
HANDICAP...

-- I'LL HAVE
TO FIGHT
THE
TEMPTATION
TO USE
THEM--

-- BY USING
MY KRYPTONIAN
BELT FOR A
BLINDFOLD--

... BUT I'LL
BE A LITTLE
BIT MORE
CAREFUL...



AND AS
A **BLIND**
MAN OF
STEEL
HURTLER
BACKWARD
FROM THE
ANDROMEDA
MAN'S
TREMENDOUS
BLOW...



AARG!
REALLY
FELT THAT
ONE!

BUT EVEN THOUGH
I CAN'T **SEE** WHERE
THE NEXT BLOW IS
COMING FROM...

...MY **SUPER-
HEARING**
CAN PINPOINT
THE SOUND OF
AIR RUSHING
PAST **KARB-
BRAK'S** BODY...

...PROVIDING
A **TARGET**
OF **SOUND**...



THAT I CAN'T
MISS!

--AND SO **EXPLOSIVE**
IS THE FORCE OF
SUPERMAN'S
SUPER-WALLOP...

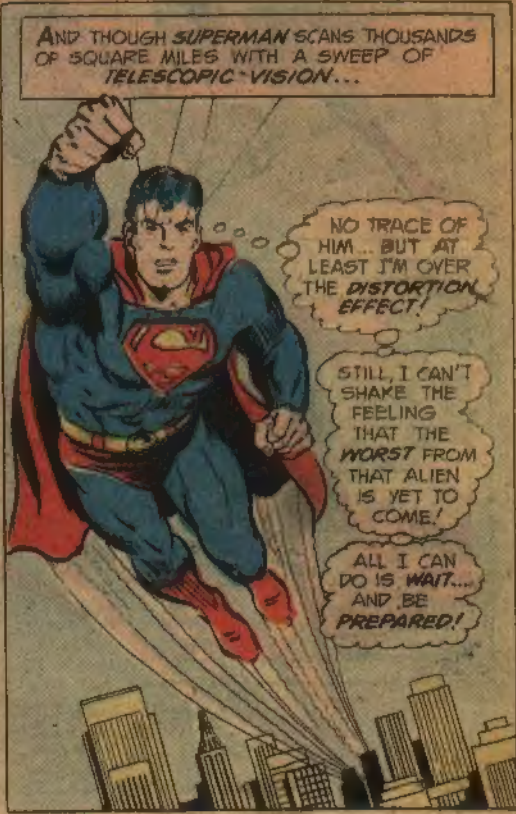


I **KNOCKED KARB-
BRAK** CLEAR OUT
OF **SIGHT**... NO
WAY OF TELLING
HOW **FAR**...

OUT OF THE
CITY... THE **COUNTRY**
...MAYBE EVEN OUT
OF THIS **WORLD!**



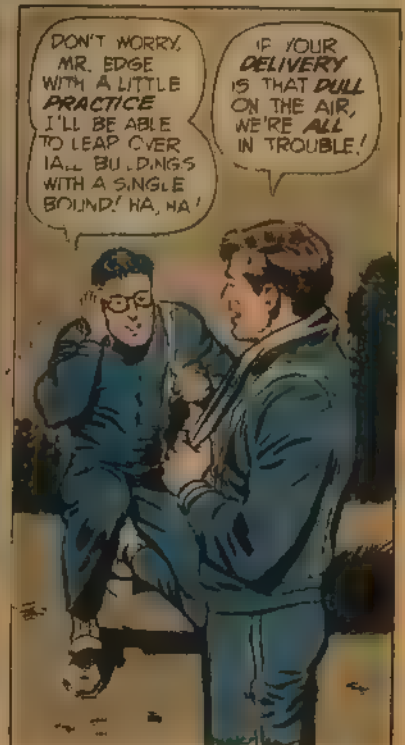
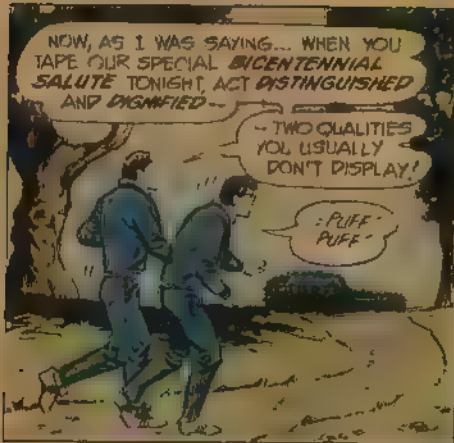
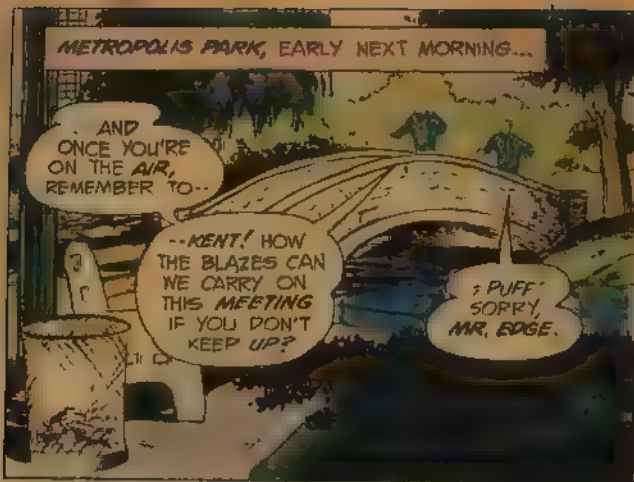
AND THOUGH **SUPERMAN** SCANS THOUSANDS
OF **SQUARE MILES** WITH A SWEEP OF
TELESCOPIC VISION...



NO **TRACE** OF
HIM... BUT AT
LEAST I'M OVER
THE **DISTORTION**
EFFECT!

STILL, I CAN'T
SHAKE THE
FEELING
THAT THE
WORST FROM
THAT **ALIEN**
IS YET TO
COME!

ALL I CAN
DO IS **WAIT**...
AND BE
PREPARED!



AND WHEN THE TAPE
IS RUN ON THE AIR
THE VERY NEXT DAY--
JULY FOURTH...



...SO ON THIS GLORIOUS
200TH ANNIVERSARY OF
AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE,
WE HERE AT **WGBS** ARE
PROUD TO PRESENT
THE FOLLOWING
SPECIAL PROGRAM...

BUT ONE VIEWER
AMONG MILLIONS
FINDS THIS
BROADCAST
EXTRA-SPECIAL.



HOW FORTUNATE
I TUNED INTO
THIS RECORDING
OF MY FOE
SPEAKING IN
HIS CLARK KENT
IDENTITY...

...FOR THIS
PREOCCUPATION
WITH **INDEPENDENCE**
HAS GIVEN ME A
LIFE-**SAVING**
INSPIRATION!

BUT IT MEANS
TAXING THE
CAPABILITIES
OF MY **PSI**
MACHINE TO THE
ABSOLUTE
LIMIT!



I TELEPORTED THE
PSI TO EARTH WITH
ME SO I COULD
AMUSE MYSELF BY
MANIPULATING
SUB HUMAN
EARTHMEN IN
MY LEISURE
MOMENTS!

INSTEAD, I'VE
USED IT ONCE
AGAINST **SUPERMAN***
--AND NOW I NEED
ITS REMARKABLE
PROGRAMMING
POWERS TO
BATTLE HIM
AGAIN!

*LAST ISSUE!-- Editor.

HE IS FLYING
OVER **METROPOLIS**
ON HIS DAILY
PATROL THIS
VERY MOMENT--

--WHICH GIVES
ME THE
OPPORTUNITY
TO ACT NOW!

THE **CRIMSON SPLOTCHES**
ARE STARTING TO APPEAR--

I'M
STARTING
TO
FADE
AWAY--

--TWO
SYMPTOMS
WHICH
MEAN
DEATH
IS ONLY
MINUTES
AWAY!

THE **PSI MACHINE**
HAS "PROGRAMMED"
SUPERMAN FOR
OUR FINAL
BATTLE--

--NOW I
MUST
FIGHT
FOR MY
LIFE!

CONTINUED ON 388 PAGE FOLLOWING.

GOT YOURSELF IN A "BIND"? DON'T KNOW WHERE
TO KEEP YOUR COMICS? THEN GET THESE MAGNIFICENT

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YOU'VE BEEN CLAMORING
FOR SOMETHING TO PROTECT
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ANSWER: ~~OUR~~ **OUR INCREDIBLE COMIC
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AND
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SCANT HEARTBEATS
LATER, OVER METROPOLIS...

REALLY? I NEVER THOUGHT
IT COULD HAPPEN
TO ME--

BUT I'M SEEING
SPOTS BEFORE MY
EYES!

WHAT
NEXT, I
WONDER--?

WOOOFF!
THERE'S
MY
ANSTER!

THIS
IS
WEIRD!

HOW CAN
A FLOATING
MASS OF
GLOWING
SPOTS
BE
ATTACKING
ME?

IT DOESN'T
MAKE ANY
SEN--

FEEL
LIKE I'VE
BEEN HIT
BY A SOLAR
WINDSTORM!

THUMMP!

WATAMINNIT!

OF COURSE!
IT HAS TO BE--

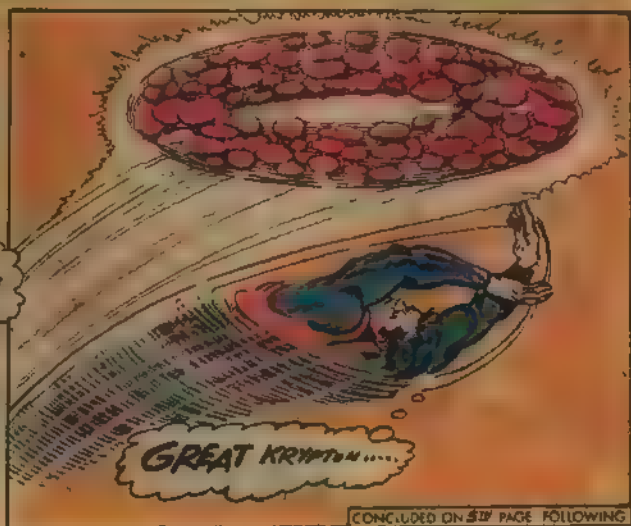
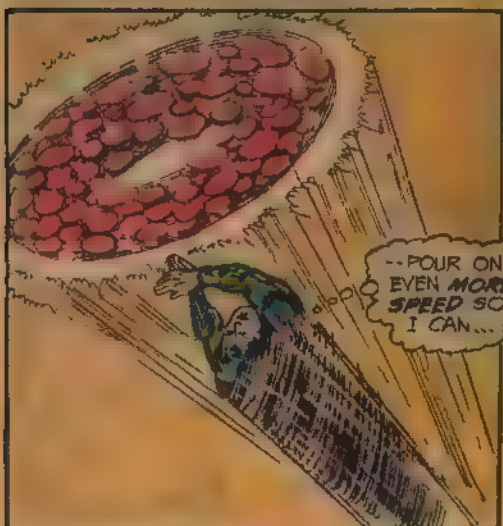
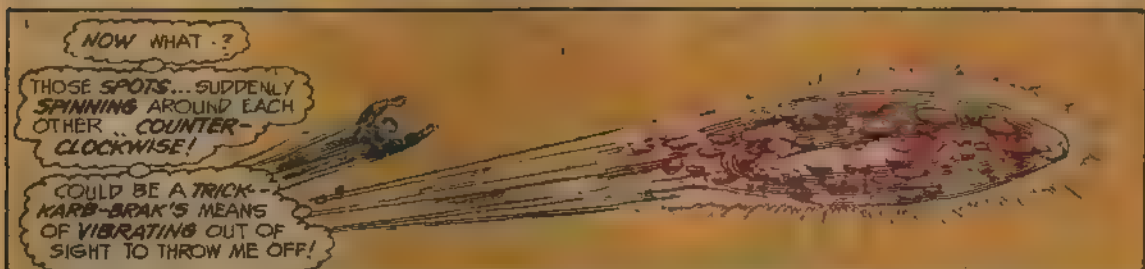
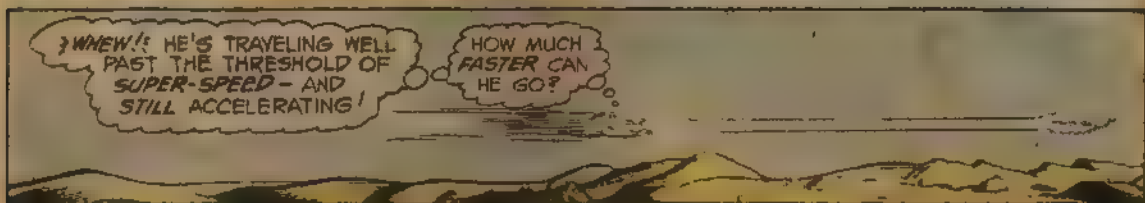
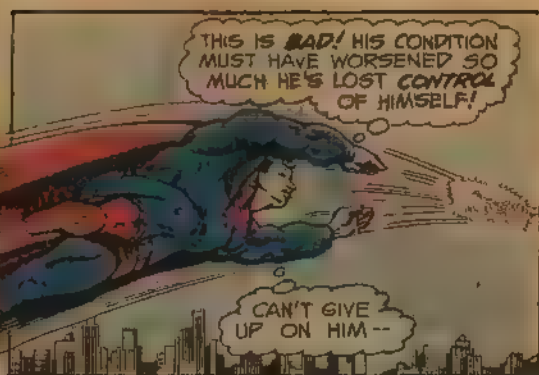
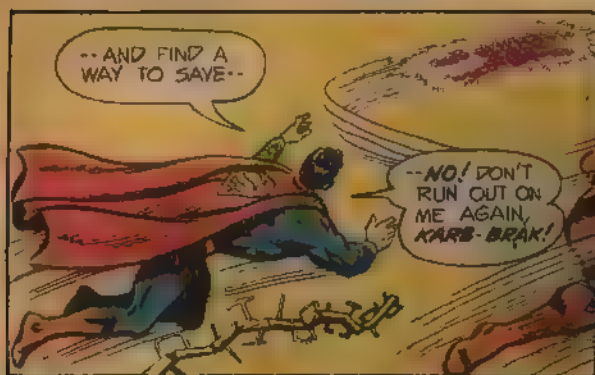
--KARB-
BRAK!

THESE
SPOTS ARE
ANOTHER
SYMPTOM
OF HIS
DISEASE!

LISTEN TO ME,
KARB-BRAK! I'VE
BEEN PONDERING
YOUR PROBLEM AND
I WANT YOU TO COME
WITH ME TO MY
ARCTIC FORTRESS--

--WHERE I
CAN USE MY
ADVANCED
EQUIPMENT TO
RUN SOME
TESTS--

CRUNCHHH



The secret of teaching yourself music



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Mail Carolyn Tudor

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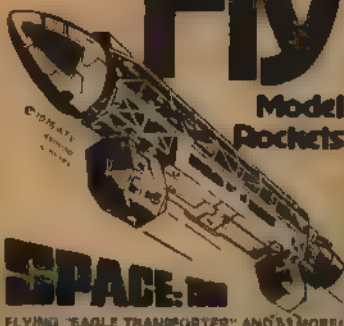
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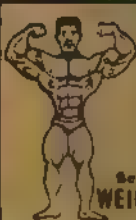
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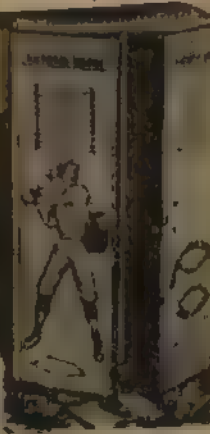


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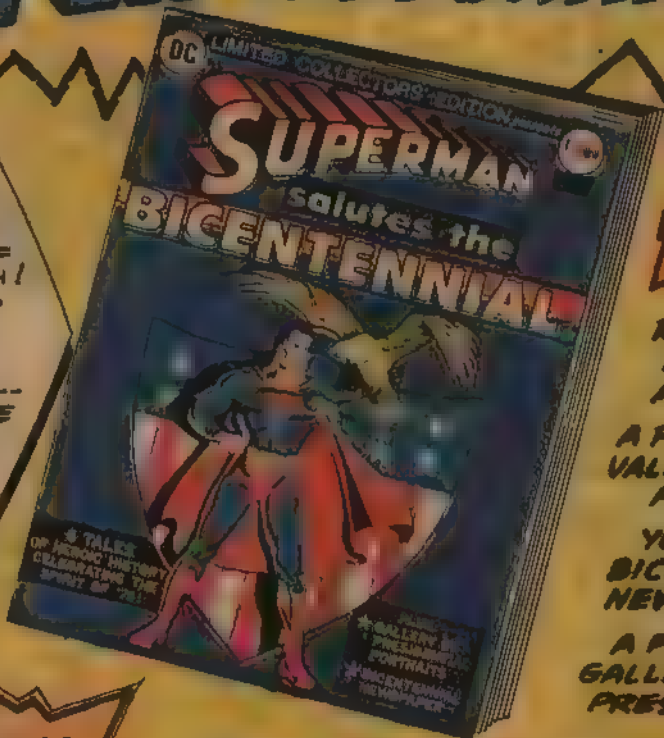
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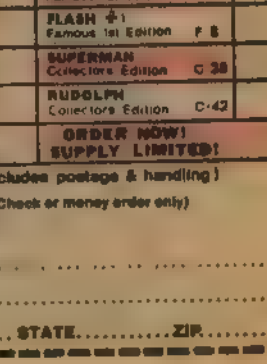
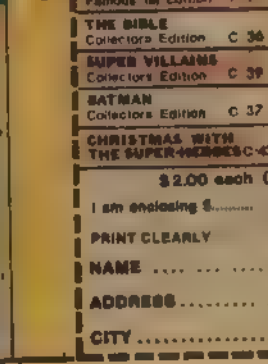
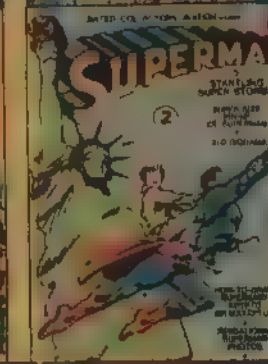
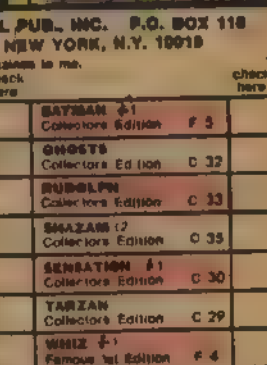
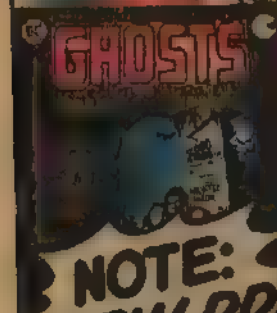
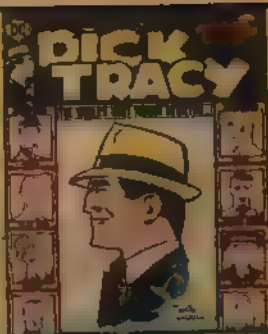
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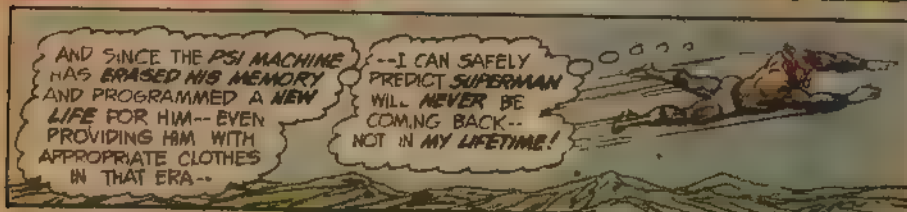
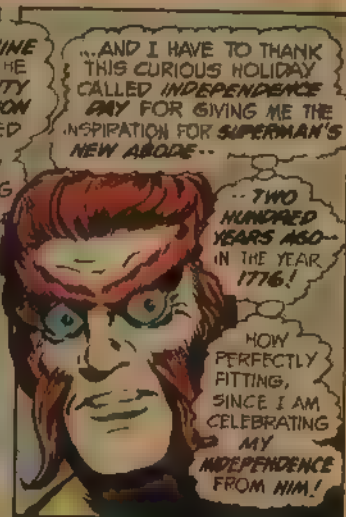
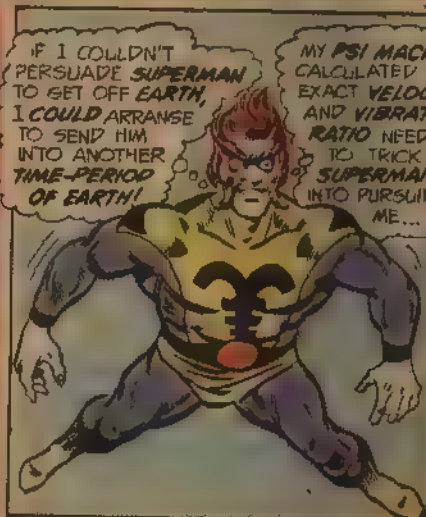
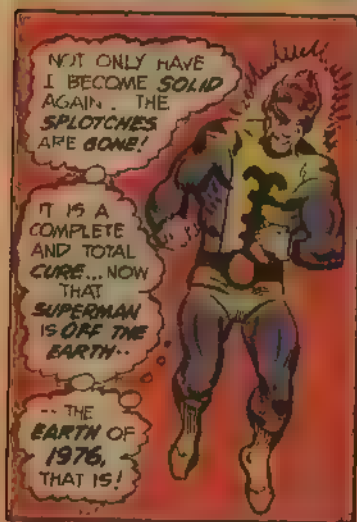
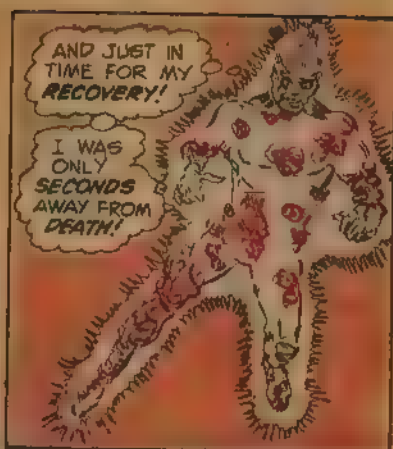
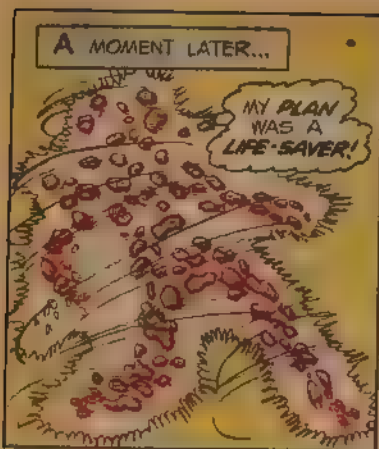
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WEEK OF MAY 24th, 1976

BOB ROZAKIS: EDITOR

JOKER & TWO-FACE SKYJACK PLANE!

OLIVER (GREEN ARROW) QUEEN HELD HOSTAGE

(Gotham City)—Disaster has befallen every owner of the Emperor Eagle for over 2000 years, but that doesn't stop Oliver (Green Arrow) Queen from wanting—and getting—it! "If I beat the curse," claims Ollie, "I'll become a legend!"

The boasting Bowman may well become a legend, but a dead one after *The Joker and Two-Face* join forces to skyjack Ollie's flight, steal the Eagle and Ollie and return them to the country which claims ownership of the bird statue. When Ollie is sentenced to death for daring to own the statue, it's Batman to the rescue with a little help from *The Atom*, but will they be in time? Don't miss **BRAVE & BOLD** #129, a Bob Haney-Jim Aparo classic, on sale the week of May 31st, for more action and guest stars then ever!



SGT ROCK & EASY COMPANY RETURN TO CHARTRES

(Europe)—World War II seems to go on forever for the combat-happy joes of Easy Company, but they keep on fighting because they know that each new battle they win liberates more people from the iron grip of the Nazi army. What then is the reaction of Sgt. Rock and his men when they have to "Return to Chartres" in *OUR ARMY AT WAR* #296? It's another battle drama in the DC tradition by Bob Kanigher, Joe Kubert and Frank Redondo and you won't want to miss it!

Also in the issue, which goes on sale the week of May 31st, Kanigher teams with Lee Elias for a Gallery of War story about "The Eternal Survivor!"

TRIVIA QUIZ #4

Everybody knows Clark Kent is a TV newsmen, but what do they know about our other heroes' occupations? Do you know the jobs of 1) Dinah (Black Canary) Lance 2) Jack (The Creeper) Ryder 3) Diana (Wonder Woman) Prince 4) Billy (Captain Marvel) Batson and 5) Linda (Supergirl) Danvers? Answers in next week's PLANET.

COMING IN NEXT WEEK'S PLANET: Lola Barnett's Comics-world—with news and views of the ins and outs of the DC Line of Superheroes! Watch for it!

"BRAVE & BOLD"



GREEN LANTERN JOINS SUPER-VILLAINS TO BATTLE

(San Francisco)—The war against Darkseid and his minions has a new recruit, Green Lantern! Persuaded by the new *Star Sapphire* to join forces with the *Secret Society of Super-Villains*, the Emerald Warrior lends his ring-aling skills to the "War for Earth-Death" against the gods of Apokolips. Will this new addition to the team tip the balance of power in favor of the Super-Villains? Only David Kraft, Pablo Marcos and Vince Colletta know the answers, but you can find out in **SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS** #3, on sale the week of May 31st.



ON SALE WEEK OF MAY 31st
KAMANDI #45—The Last Boy on Earth is on the scene of a crime and discovers "This Murder is Ray-Red X" in a story by Martin Pasko, Denny O'Neil, Keith Giffen, and Robert Smith. Plus: another tale of the *Direct Currents*!

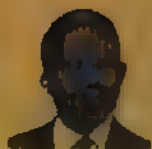
GHOSTS #49—Three haunting tales to chill your spine: "The Dead Came Calling" (art by Pitt Capelli); "The Ghost in the Cellar" (art by Lee Elias) and "The Haunted Hoard of Gold" (art by Fred Cerrillo).

FREEDOM FIGHTERS #4—Wonder Woman joins forces with the *Freedom Fighters* to save New York City from King Sempson in this team-up triumph by Martin Pasko, Ramona Fradon and Vince Colletta.

TARZAN FAMILY #85—Korak faces a foe who proves to be "Deadlier Than the Male" in a tale by Bob Kanigher, Gil Sherman and Noly Zamora. Then join John Carter as Paul Levitz adapts Edgar Rice Burroughs' novel, "Swords of Mars!" Plus *Cerson of Venus* in a "Mutiny at Sea" and more Fantastic Creatures of ERS.

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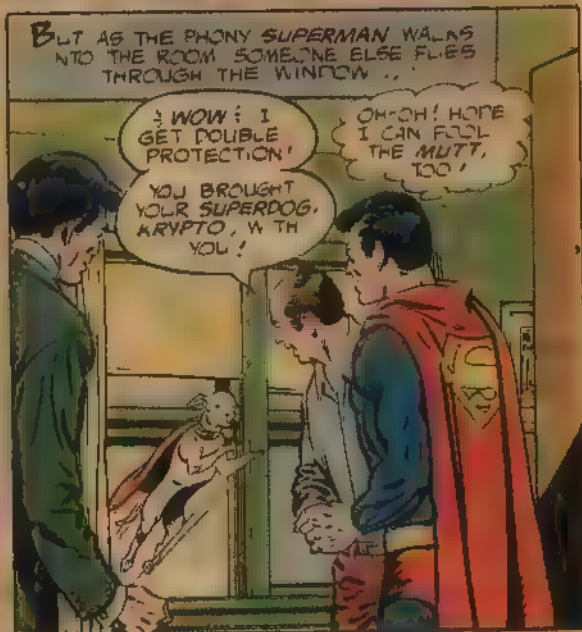
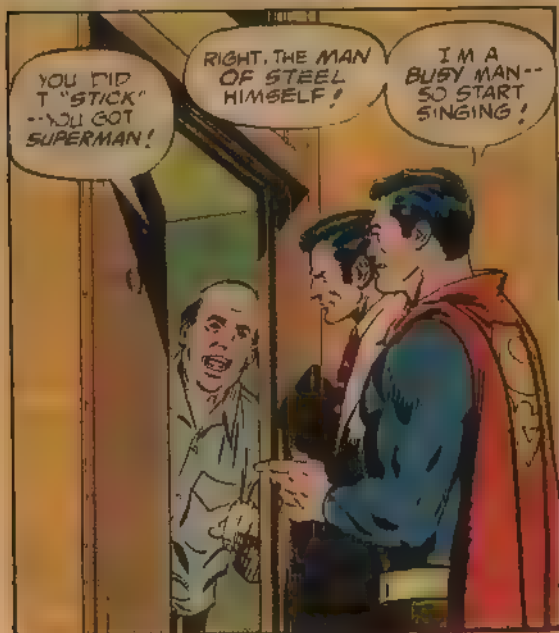
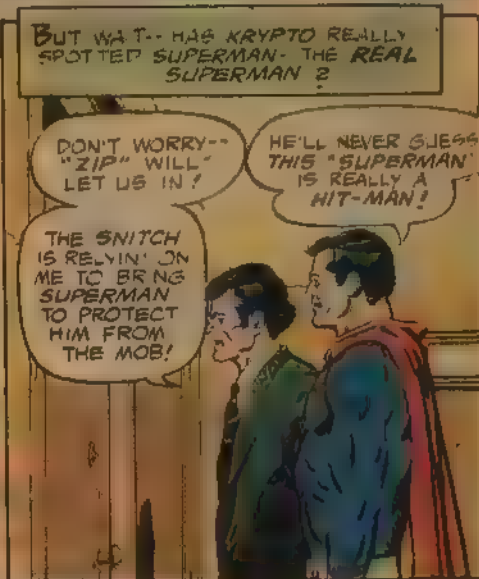
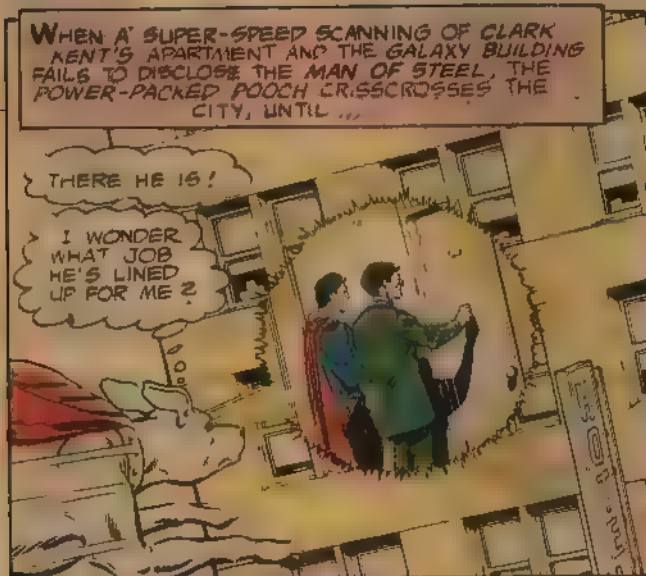
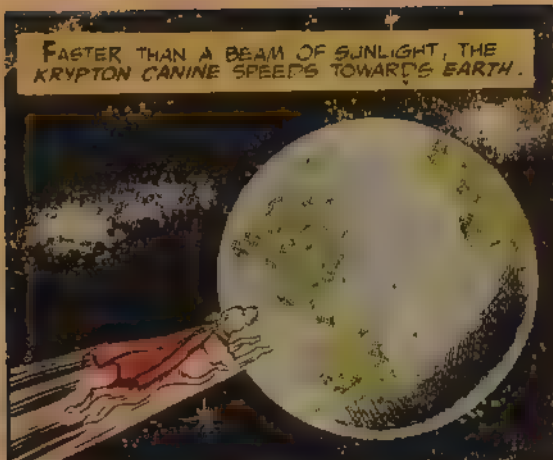
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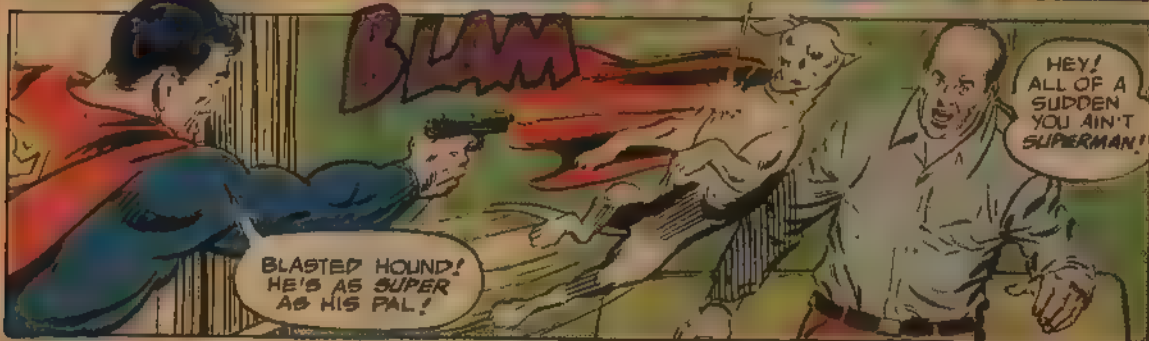
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NOT ONLY DOESN'T HE
SMELL LIKE MY MASTER--
HE DOESN'T EVEN LOOK
LIKE HIM UNDER THAT
MAKEUP!

GRRRRRRR

I DON'T
LIKE THE
SOUND OF
THAT
SNARL!

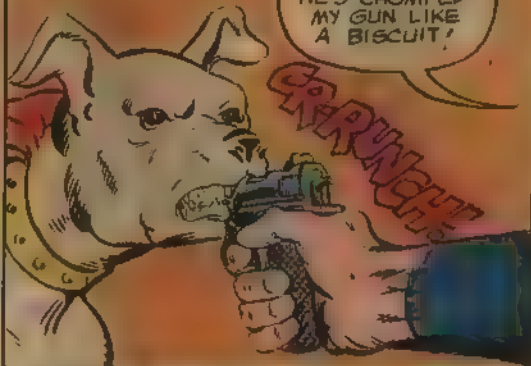
GOTTA
USE MY
PIECE--
QUICK!



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OFF YOU & OKAY, I'LL
SHOOT ONE RIGHT DOWN
YOUR GULLET!

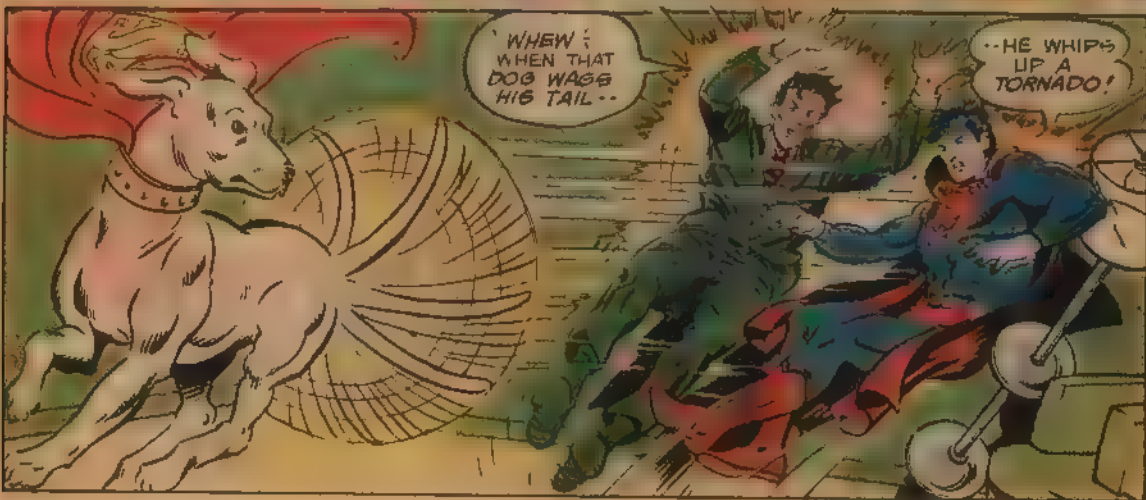


! GAAAAAH !
HE'S CHOMPED
MY GUN LIKE
A BISCUIT!

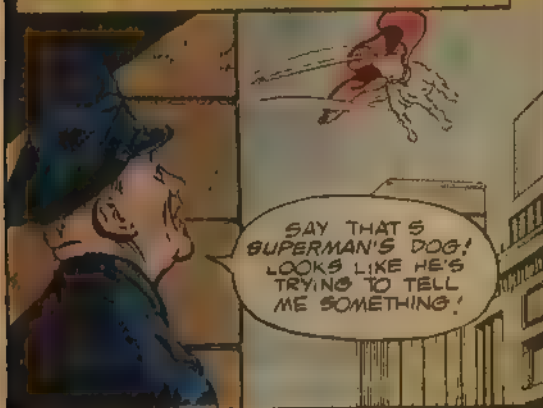


WHEW!
WHEN THAT
DOG WAGS
HIS TAIL--

--HE WHIPS
UP A
TORNADO!



MOMENTS LATER, OUT ON THE STREET...



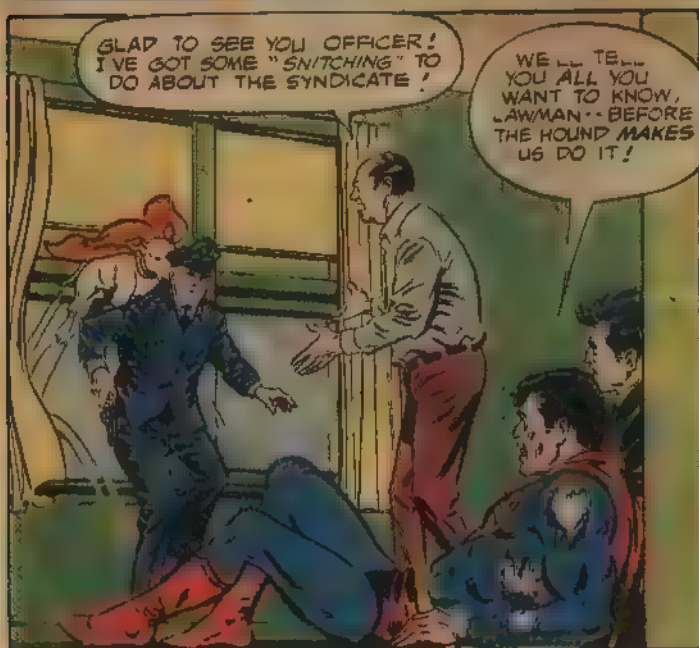
SAY THAT'S
SUPERMAN'S DOG!
LOOKS LIKE HE'S
TRYING TO TELL
ME SOMETHING!

BUT THE DOG OF STEEL DOES MORE THAN JUST
TRY TO CONVEY A MESSAGE...



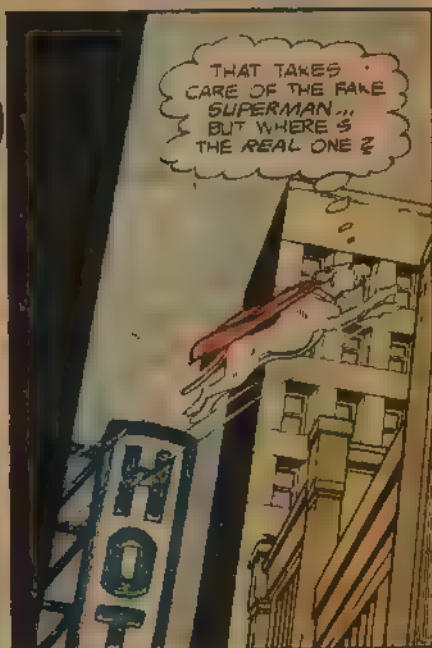
WHOOOPS!
I GET IT!

YOU WANT
ME TO
FOLLOW
YOU!

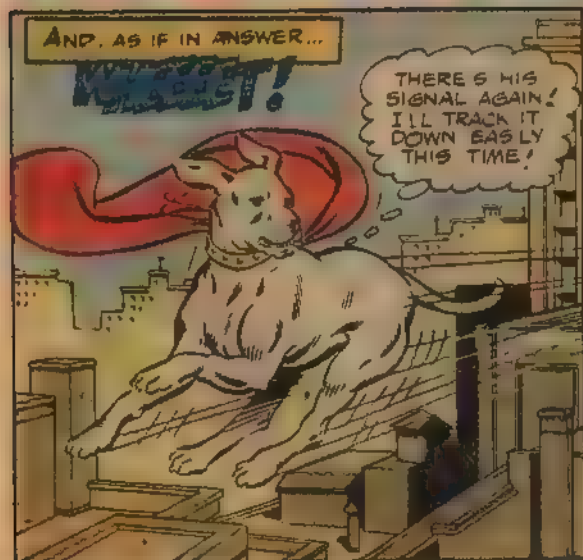


GLAD TO SEE YOU OFFICER!
I'VE GOT SOME "SNITCHING" TO
DO ABOUT THE SYNDICATE!

WE'LL TELL
YOU ALL YOU
WANT TO KNOW,
LAWMAN-- BEFORE
THE HOUND MAKES
US DO IT!



THAT TAKES
CARE OF THE FAKE
SUPERMAN...
BUT WHERE'S
THE REAL ONE?



AND, AS IF IN ANSWER...

WHIST!

THERE'S HIS
SIGNAL AGAIN!
I'LL TRACK IT
DOWN EASILY
THIS TIME!



BUT WHEN
THE DOG OF
TOMORROW
ZOOMS IN ON
THE SOURCE
OF THE
WHISTLE

THAT'S
NOT MY
MASTER!

IT'S ANOTHER
HUMAN MAKING
THE SOUND COME
FROM A MACHINE!

CONTINUED ON 586 PAGE FOLLOWING

YOU ASKED FOR THEM! WE'VE GOT 'EM!

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THUNDERSTRUCK IN
YOUR SENSATIONAL
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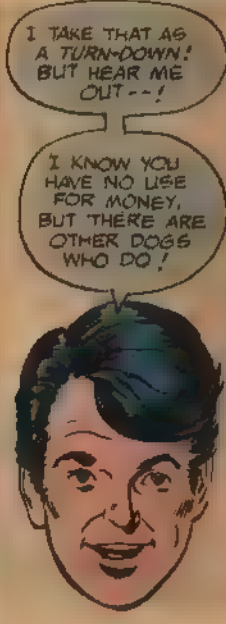
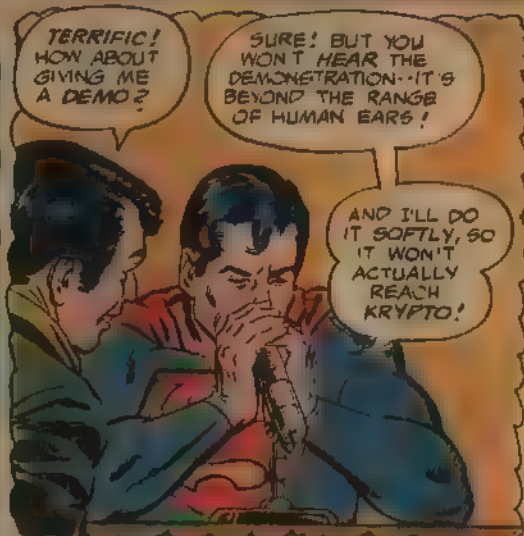
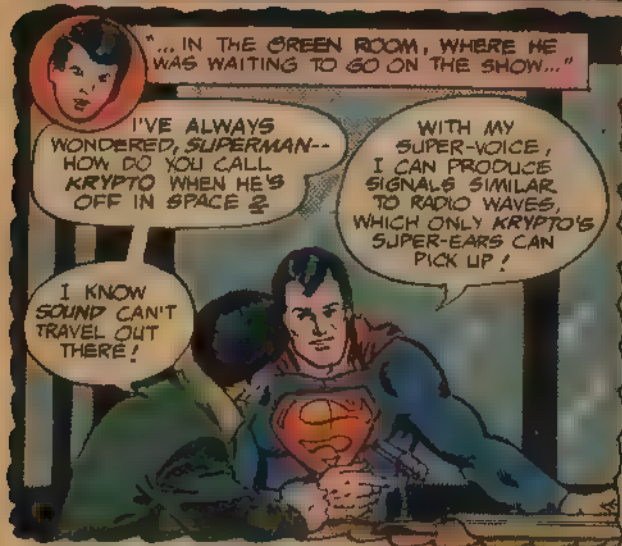
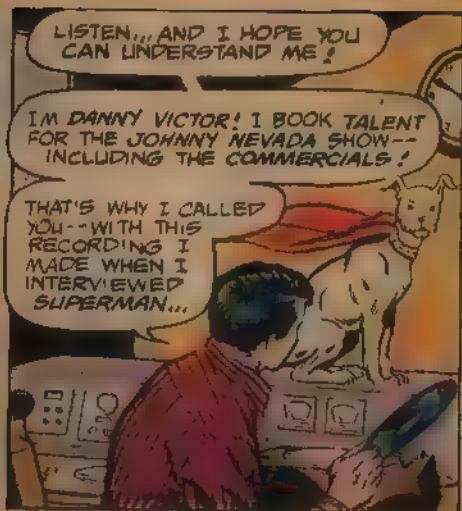
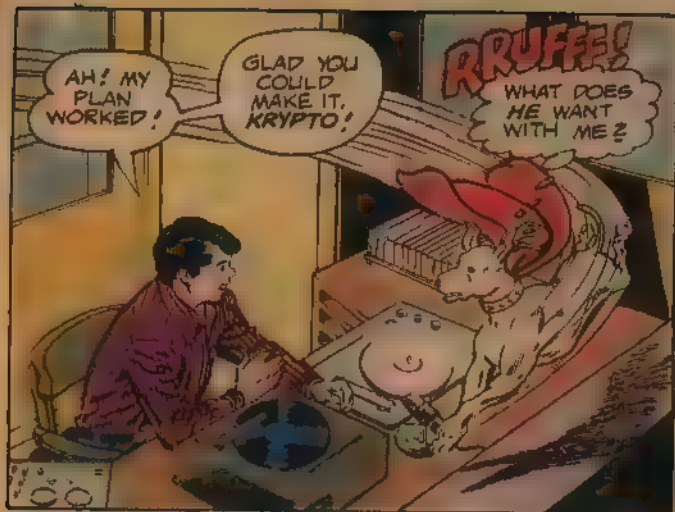
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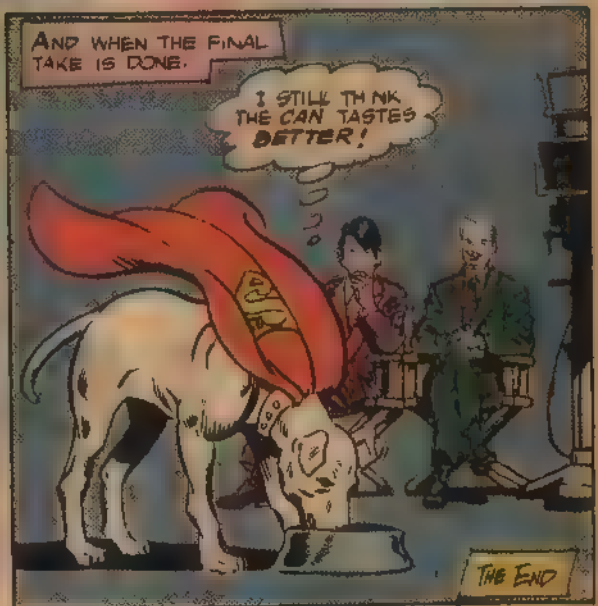
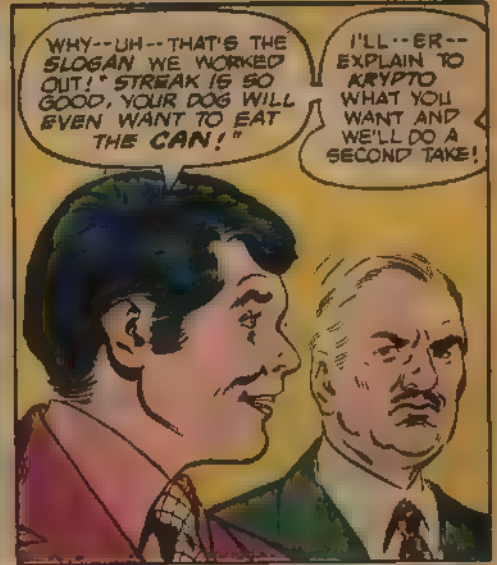
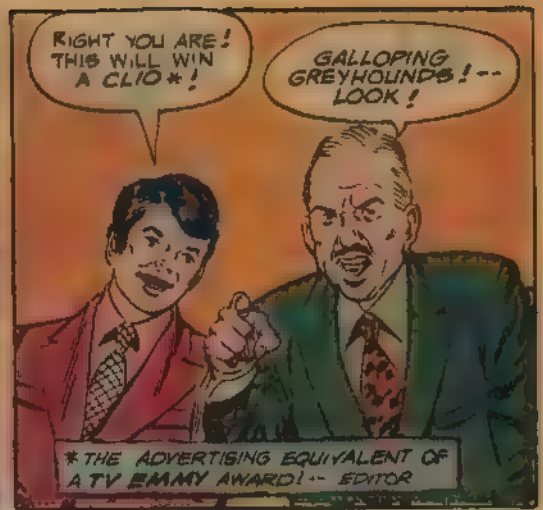
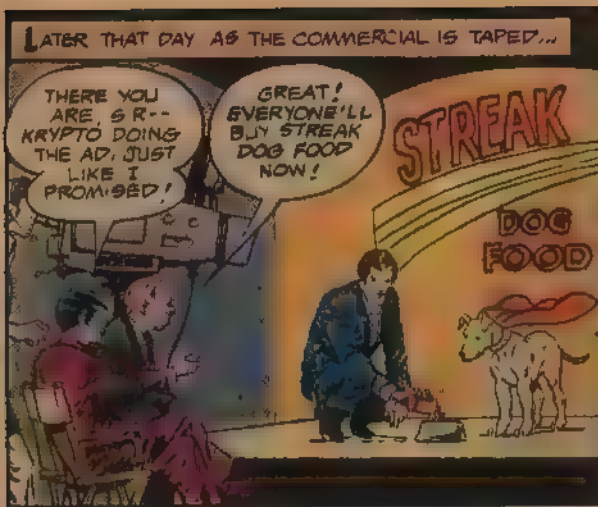
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Dear Editor:

Upon the emergence of a new and super-powered character, I always wonder whether I should like him better as a hero or a villain; such was the case with the introduction of **Blackrock** in **Action** #458, though the debate was quickly circumvented by his brash and egotistical behavior. Besides, the matter seems to have been already decided: the secrecy surrounding the creation of "**Blackrock**, the TV Hero," and his unidentified, mysterious alter-ego gives the whole affair a foreboding sense of no-good. In other words, **Blackrock** is the bad guy. "Make Me a Super-Hero" is the most innovative and original story I have had the pleasure of reading in a long while. Sub-plots upon sub-plots as GBS and rival network UBC vie for the Number One Broadcasting Spot, each with its own super-hero.

Superman seems convinced the **BR** is a villain; and, while he was wrong about the TV Hero being behind the criminal shenanigans this issue, I have a feeling the **Man of Steel** will wind up being correct in the long run. In the meantime, I shall just sit back and enjoy! Enjoy **Blackrock's** television-oriented vocabulary ("You deserve a break today," "Taste that beats the others cold," etc., etc.). Enjoy the rivalry between the two networks (So Lola Barnett has sold out and gone over to UBC! Hmm...). Enjoy this serialized adventure.

I can't say I'm sorry to see **Green Arrow** and **Black Canary** leave this mag, since most of their 5-page adventures weren't doing them justice, but I will say they went out with a bang! "Masquerade of the Nutty Kid" brought to a conclusion an excellent adventure, highlighting the **Bird-Lady** in a splendorific, if all-too-brief, segment. To think she kayoed **Luthor** in only four pages, whereas **Superman** sometimes can't do that in a book-lengther! She ought to be dynamite in her own new mag with **GA**.

Scott Gibson, Evergreen, Colo.

(The **GREEN ARROW-BLACK CANARY** mag won't be appearing for a while. But you can see **GA** teamed with **GREEN LANTERN** (hope you didn't miss the first issue, which was on sale earlier this month), and both the **EMERALD ARCHER** and the **BLONDE BOMBSHELL** will be appearing in **DETECTIVE COMICS** soon.—E.N.B.)

Dear Julie and Nelson:

Of all things, a villain who's a hero! You couldn't call him a villain, though, because he hasn't committed any crime. Nor can he be called a hero, because his acts of heroism are solely for UBC's

news. So what is he? Writer Elliot Maggin will let us ponder that question for a month, further damaging our rather unstable minds.

Another question I'm wondering about concerns the three employees who left GBS. One, as stated, was Lola Barnett. But who were the other two? Oscar Asherman is the only other big name I can come up with. More comments on **Blackrock** next time.

"Masquerade of the Nutty Kid" was a superb finish to what started out as a rather dull series. **Luthor's** hypno-gun showed that he truly is the great scientist he claims to be.

Mike White, Mackinaw, Ill.

(We haven't introduced the ENTIRE GBS news staff in the past. The other two defectors were among those you hadn't met—E.N.B.)

Dear Editor:

Action #458 was probably the best super-hero saga I've read in a long time. I was glad to see a realistic look at the business world, and **Galaxy's** desperate competitors. **Blackrock** was a riot, as was his dialogue. Elliot Maggin finally came up with something really different.

As for who this hero is—it must be someone with "intelligence, aggressiveness, wisdom, imagination—and only one person fills the bill!" With that little clue, my first thought was the **Man of Steel** himself—but that can't be, because not even **Superman** can be in two places at once—or can he?

And speaking of who's who—the close-up of Prof. Silverstone on page 8 didn't look like the pictures of him on page 4. In fact, if I didn't know better, I'd swear it resembled a certain caped Kryptonian. In disguise.

But if Prof. Silverstone is really **Superman**, is **Superman** really Prof. S? And who is the mysterious **Blackrock**? Let me see—if Prof. S is **Superman**, then **Blackrock** could be Prof. S. and Clark Kent would really be Steve Lombard, is Steve Lombard really Newton Rockwell? Or maybe **Superman** is really the elusive **Blackrock**. For the answers to these and other questions, stay tuned till next month, same time, same insanity.

M. E. Robbins, Westlake, Calif.

(Seems you've omitted one name in your wild guesses—Samuel Tanner, President of UBC, who just happens to have been **BLACKROCK**—as you know by now! You were right about one thing—but in the wrong issue. Clark was Steve Lombard in **SUPERMAN** #201—E. NELSON BRIDWELL)

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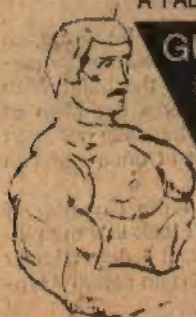
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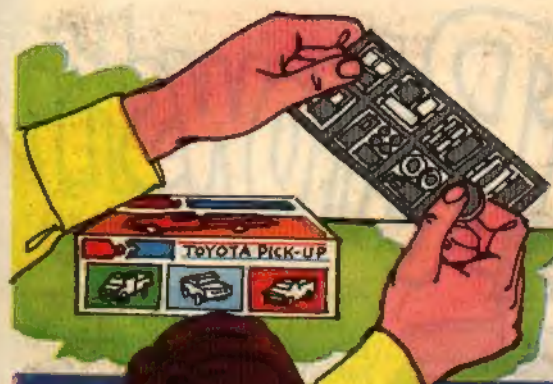
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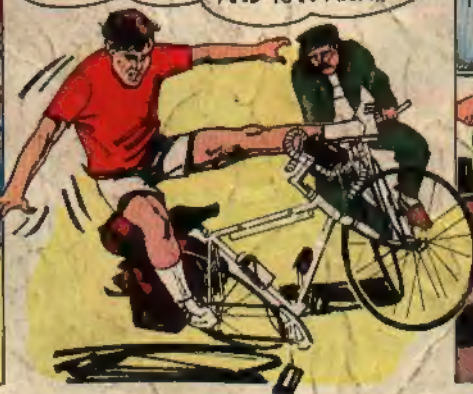
GEE UNCLE JOHN, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WENT 11,000 MILES ON A BIKE.

YES THAT BROWNING GRADE V WENT ALL THROUGH EUROPE AND ASIA.

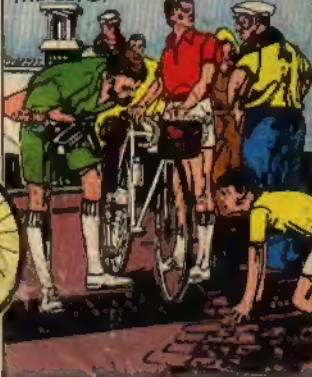


IN YUGOSLAVIA CARS RACE DOWN THE COBBLESTONE ROADS. IT'S SCARY. AND TOUGH ON A BIKE.

IN RUMANIA A GUY RIDING HIS BIKE ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE ROAD RAN INTO ME HEAD ON. HE GOT UP AND RAN AWAY.



IN BULGARIA A CROWD GATHERED, AMAZED AT THE STAMINA I NEEDED. I TOLD THEM MY BROWNING HANDLED WELL DESPITE THE LOAD.



BOY, UNCLE JOHN, IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU HAD AN EXCITING TIME!

YES IT WAS ENJOYABLE, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE MY BROWNING DIDN'T BREAK DOWN.



IN TURKEY THE POST OFFICE ASKED \$22.00 IMPORT DUTY ON BIKE PARTS. MY BROWNING WAS SO RELIABLE I TOLD THEM TO KEEP THE PARTS.



THE KHYBER PASS IN PAKISTAN IS NARROW AND ROUGH, AND TRUCK DRIVERS PLAYED 'CHICKEN' WITH ME.

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